



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Housing and Redevelopment Division, Community
Development Department

SUBJECT: Proposed Changes To Projects Funded By Workforce
Housing Reward Program

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize staff to amend the projects funded by the State Workforce Housing Reward Program currently appropriated in the General Fund Capital Program.

DISCUSSION:

Under its Workforce Housing Reward Program (WHRP), created through Proposition 46 funding, the State awarded grant funds to municipalities that produce affordable housing. Based on affordable housing constructed over a three year period, the City received \$772,497 in funding for use in public benefit capital improvement projects. Funding was frozen for a period last year by the State, but is now available, and funds must be spent before April 30, 2010. To spend all of the funds awarded to the City on time, more projects need to be added to those previously approved by Council.

Metropolitan Transit District Bus Shelters

On March 13, 2007, Council approved the locations of six bus stops that would be improved with new bus shelters using \$142,572 in WHRP funds. Before the state funding was secured, the Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) proceeded with the installation of the bus shelters using their own funds. To use the WHRLP funds, staff has worked with MTD to identify the following six new locations based on high boarding levels:

1. San Andres at Anapamu (heading toward Micheltorena)
2. Modoc at Portesuello (adjacent to Pilgrim Terrace)
3. Punta Gorda at Salinas (heading toward Voluntario)
4. San Andres at Valerio (heading toward Micheltorena)

5. Milpas at De la Guerra (heading toward Cota)
6. Montecito at Milpas (next to Scolari's)

MTD typically constructs their bus shelters out of steel, but is now considering switching to less expensive aluminum shelters. The first aluminum bus shelter will be installed soon in Goleta. If satisfied with aluminum, MTD would then proceed with aluminum for the above six bus shelters and realize cost savings that would allow for up to two additional bus shelters at the following locations:

7. Voluntario at Carpinteria (heading toward Milpas)
8. Milpas at Haley (heading toward Ortega)

Community Facility Improvements

On February 10, 2009, Council approved WHRP funding for capital projects at the Franklin Neighborhood Center, Haley Street Youth Center (Primo Boxing), and Ortega Welcome House. Costs for the completed portions of these projects have been lower than anticipated, leaving a balance of \$49,216. Of this amount, approximately \$35,000 is proposed to be used for security cameras in the parking lot, back alley, and entrance of the Eastside Library and \$4,665 is proposed to be used to complete the previously approved Franklin Center signs and mailbox footings.

Staff recommends that the approximate remaining balance of \$9,550 in WHRP funds be applied toward the cost of replacing the roof at the Ortega Pool House located at Ortega Park (632 Ortega Street). The cost of the roof replacement is estimated at \$25,000. The \$15,450 not covered by WHRP funds would be paid from funds in the City's Building Maintenance Program. The roof is in poor condition and funding to replace it has not been previously available. The Ortega Pool is heavily used. Free recreation swim is provided to neighborhood children and residents of nearby City Housing Authority projects. The new roof would compliment other renovation projects at Ortega Park, including the recently renovated Ortega Welcome House and renovations planned for the Ortega Park restrooms.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MTD will install and pay for the six newly identified bus shelters (\$142,572) and submit documentation to the City in time for staff to submit the reimbursement request to the State before the April 30, 2010 deadline. No City funds will be spent on the bus shelters.

The Public Works Facilities Division will complete the security camera installation (\$35,000), the Franklin Center signs and mailbox footing project (\$4,665), and the Ortega Pool House roof replacement (\$9,550) from existing appropriations in the General Fund capital fund. The balance of approximately \$15,500 for the roof replacement will be funded from Building Maintenance Program funds. At the completion of each project, reimbursement requests for amounts expended (up to the maximum amount of \$49,216) will be submitted to the State before the April 30, 2010 deadline.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

The bus shelters would meet two goals of the City's Sustainable Santa Barbara Program: 1) lighting for the bus shelters incorporates solar power, thereby helping to meet the goal of reducing energy consumption, and 2) the bus shelters also feature trash/recycling receptacles, which provide more opportunities for people to recycle in public places.

The new roof at the Ortega Pool House would extend the life span of the structure, and the roofing materials to be used would meet City sustainability standards.

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SUBMITTED BY: Paul Casey, Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office